



MAYOR BRETT P. SMILEY  
CITY OF PROVIDENCE

# WOONASQUATUCKET RIVER GREENWAY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT UPDATES

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Planning + Development, WRWC

March 19, 2024



# Woonasquatucket River Greenway

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- \$10.1M Greenway improvement project
- Project concept dates back as far as the 1999 Greenway Master Plan
  - Developed in conjunction with numerous State agencies and RI Federal Delegation
  - Defined a *"continuous urban greenway system along the Woonasquatucket River from Manton Pond to Waterplace Park in Downtown Providence"*
- Identified as a top priority in [Woonasquatucket Vision Plan](#)
  - In partnership with Woonasquatucket River Watershed Council and stakeholders communitywide
  - Design and engineering began in 2019
  - Manafort Brothers beginning construction March 2024
- Project provides a *safe and accessible* connector to Downtown Providence from areas throughout Providence where a high percentage of residents do not have access to vehicles



# Woonasquatucket River Greenway

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- Improvement of existing Woonasquatucket River Greenway from Providence Place Mall to Eagle Square
  - Design supported by traffic analysis done in 2019
  - Separated shared use path along Kinsley Avenue and Promenade Street
  - Curb separated from street with green infrastructure and mountable truck aprons
    - New street trees and bioswales to reduce flooding, treat water flowing into Woonasquatucket River, provide native habitat along the riverbank
    - Road diet along Kinsley Avenue to reduce speeding
    - Truck aprons are mountable curbing to allow truck turning movements (designed in consultation with area businesses and property owners)



# Funding in place, ready for construction

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- Budget Breakdown
  - RI State Transportation Improvement Program: \$5.35M
  - City Capital Improvement Program: \$3.95M
  - RI DEM Climate Resilience Fund: \$500,000
  - RI DEM Boating Access Grant: \$100,000
  - SNEP Grant: \$250,000



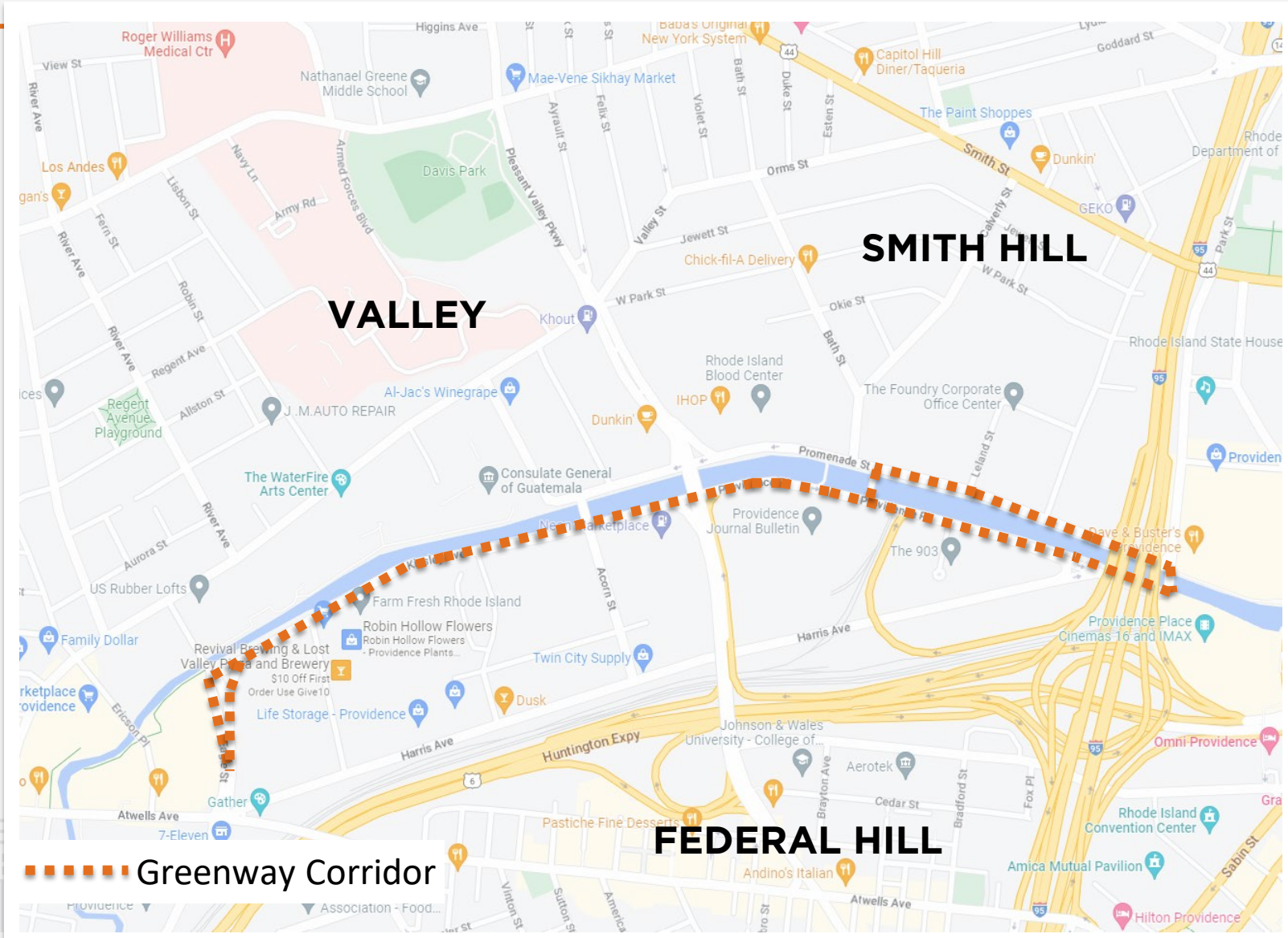
# Outreach Summary

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- Provided opportunity for residents & businesses to provide feedback on the project and its design
- Design outreach began in 2019
  - June 17, 2019 In-person kickoff
  - May 28, 2020 Virtual project update when concepts were presented
- Multiple in-person and virtual meetings with individual businesses and residences since 2020
  - Over 20 one-on-one and residence building meetings
- Designs were modified to the extent possible; additional traffic analyses conducted to support design and address comments



# Woonasquatucket River Greenway

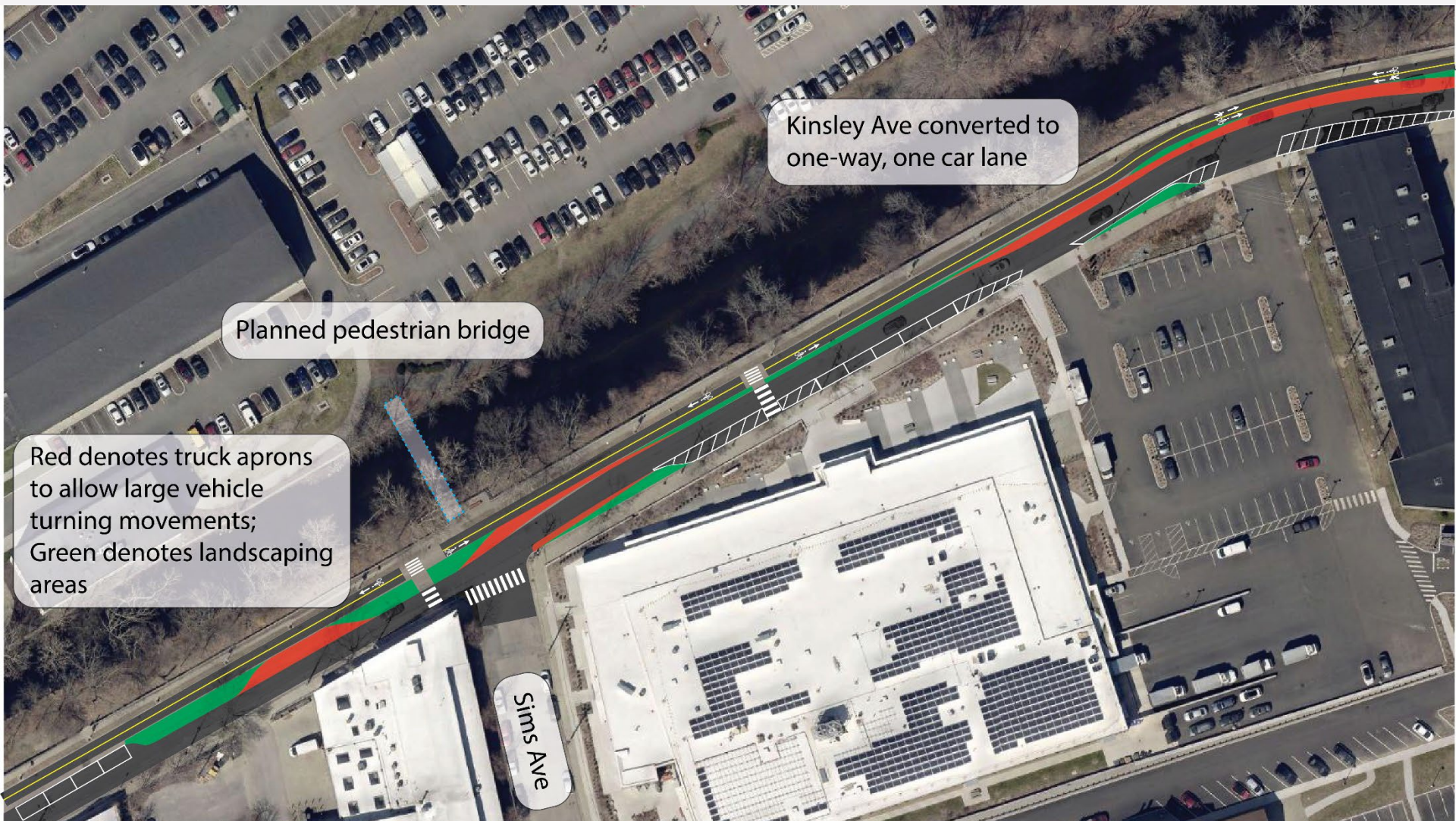


# Woonasquacket River Greenway: Eagle St

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# Woonasquatucket River Greenway: Sims Ave



Kinsley Ave converted to one-way, one car lane

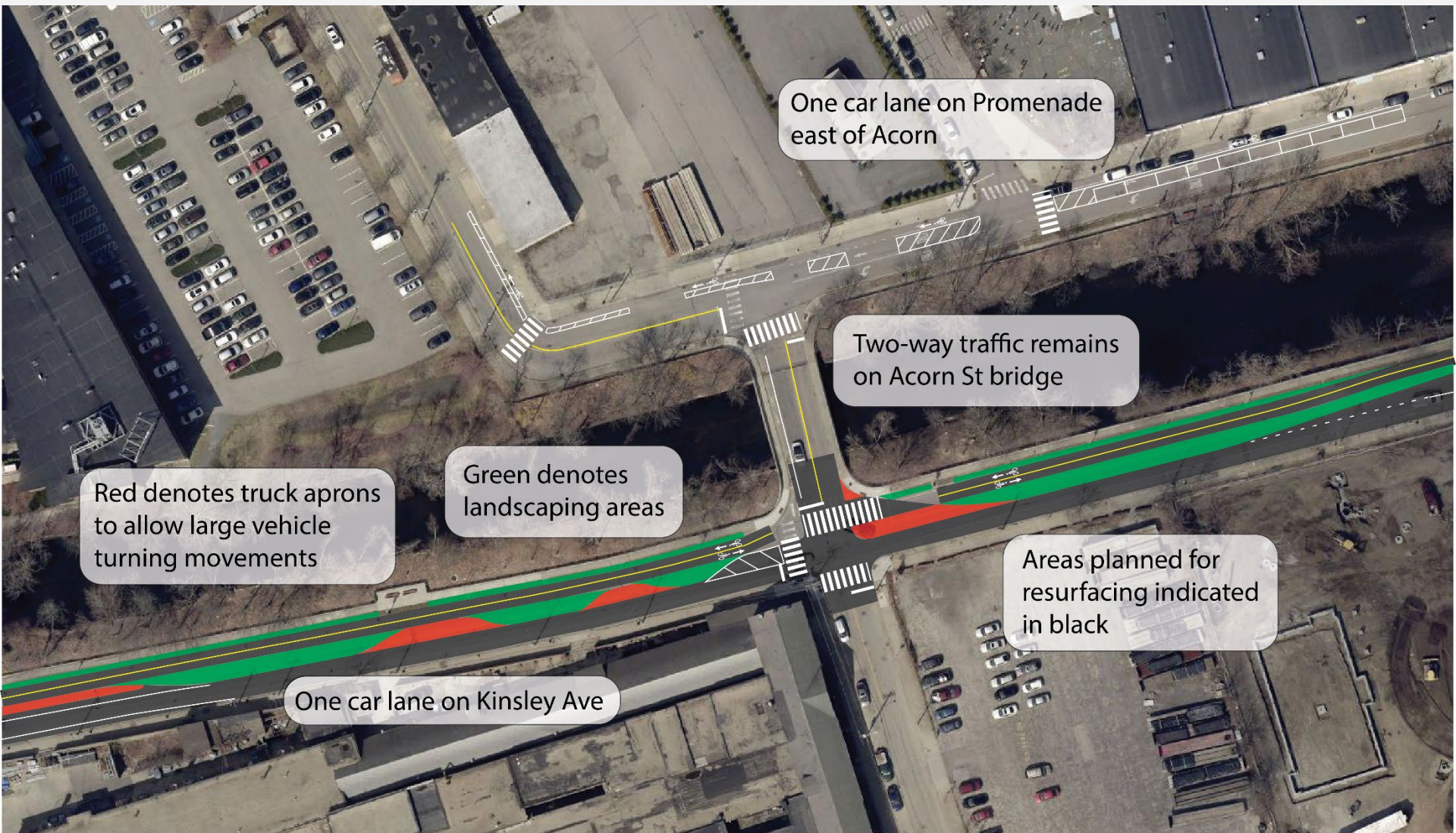
Planned pedestrian bridge

Red denotes truck aprons to allow large vehicle turning movements; Green denotes landscaping areas

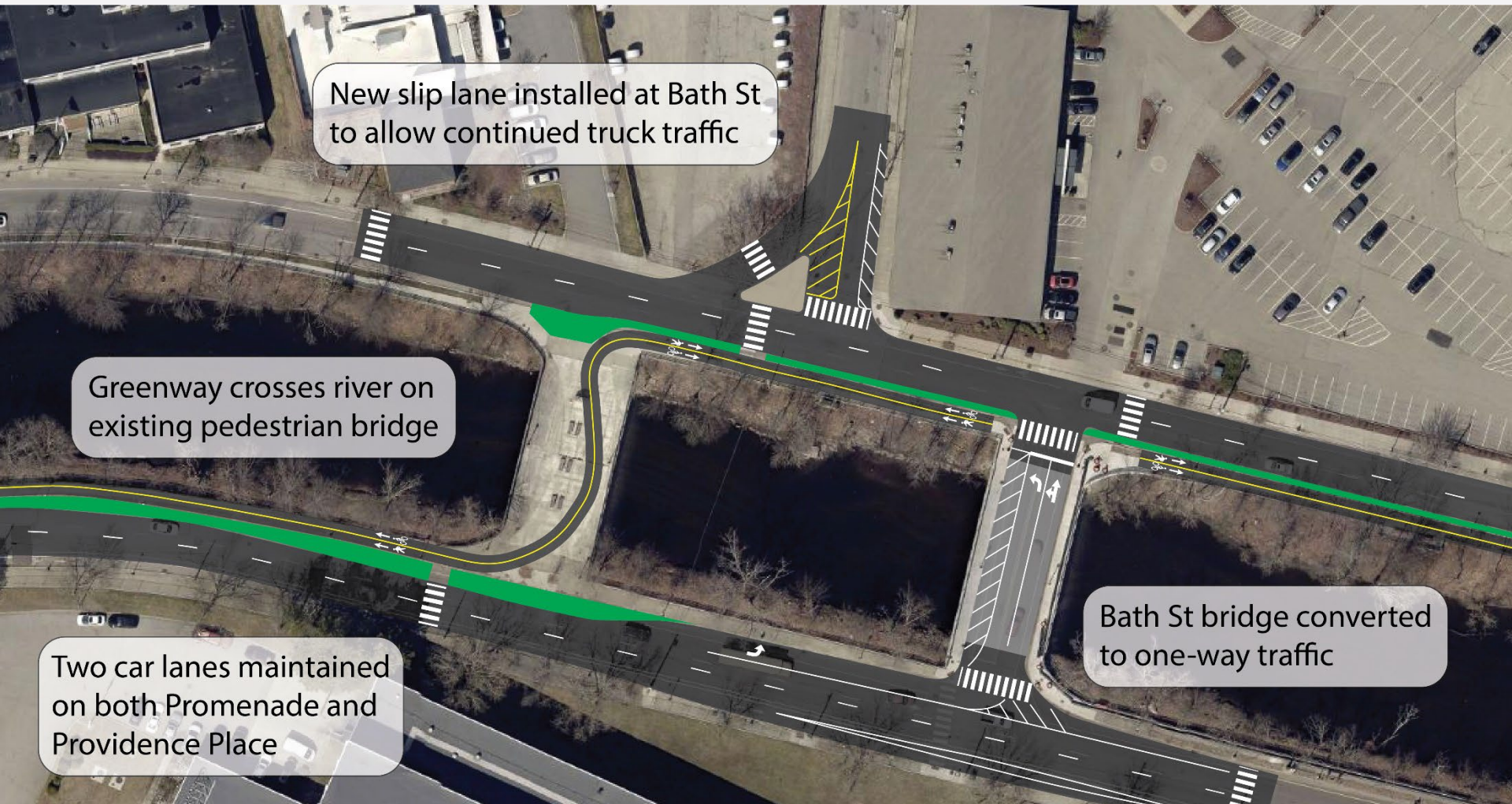
Sims Ave



# Woonasquacket River Greenway: Acorn



# Woonasquatucket River Greenway: Bath St



New slip lane installed at Bath St to allow continued truck traffic

Greenway crosses river on existing pedestrian bridge

Two car lanes maintained on both Promenade and Providence Place

Bath St bridge converted to one-way traffic

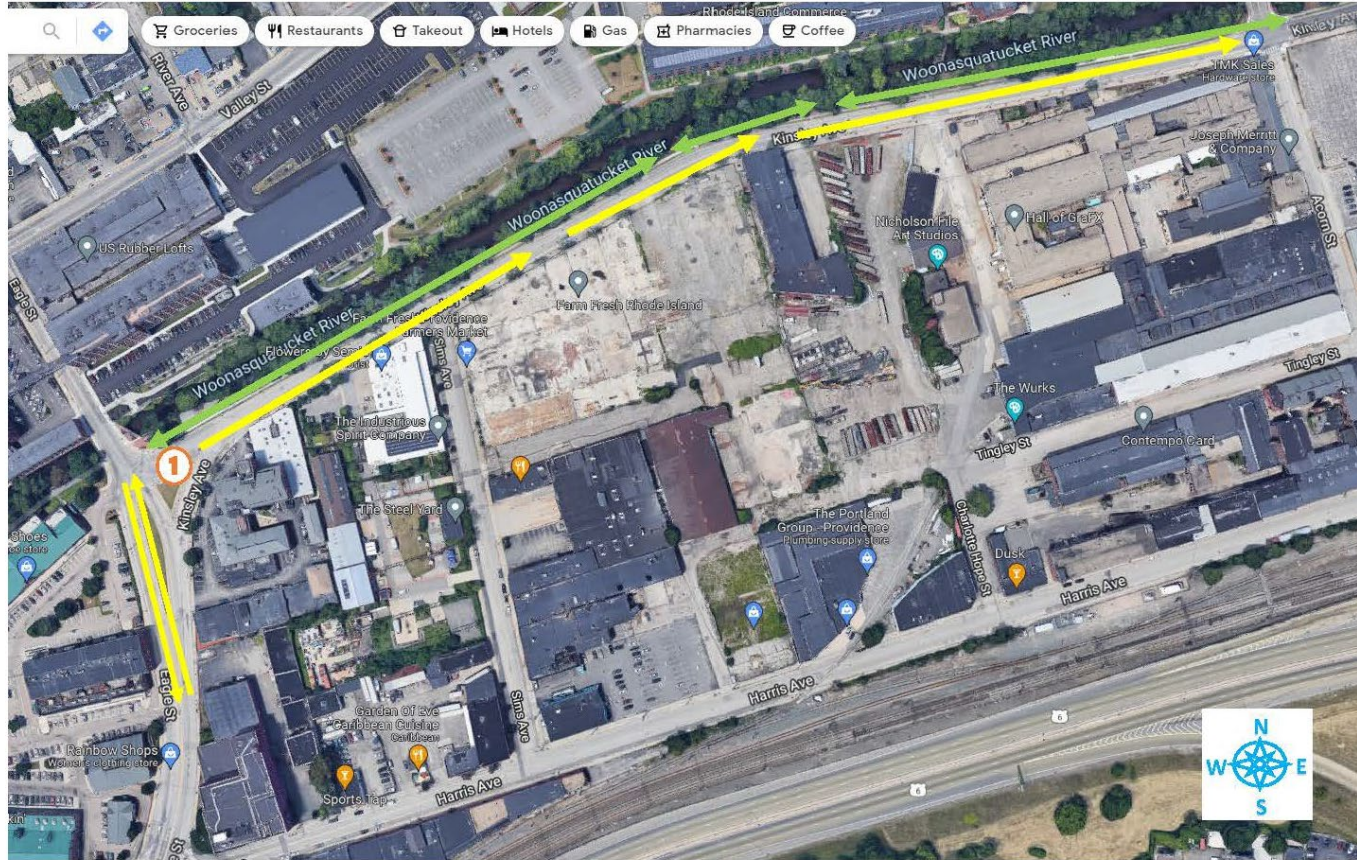
# Construction and Detour Schedule

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- March 18, 2024: Signage for detours going up
- March 25, 2024: Signal modifications for detours
- March 26, 2024: Detours become active; one lane of Kinsley Avenue closed to traffic, one lane one-way east towards Providence Place Mall open
- April 1-October 15, 2024: Construction



# Traffic Alterations: Kinsley Ave to Dean



① Kinsley Avenue is converted to a one-lane one-way street for cars headed eastbound toward Downtown; a new shared use path is created along the River's edge.

Eagle Street is narrowed, but will still be bidirectional for cars; parallel on-street parking will be added to both sides of Eagle Street; the Eagle-Kinsley intersection will be redesigned to make it safer.


↔ Woonasquackett River Greenway-  
new shared use path along the River

→ Vehicle Travel Paths

# Traffic Alterations: Dean to Providence Place

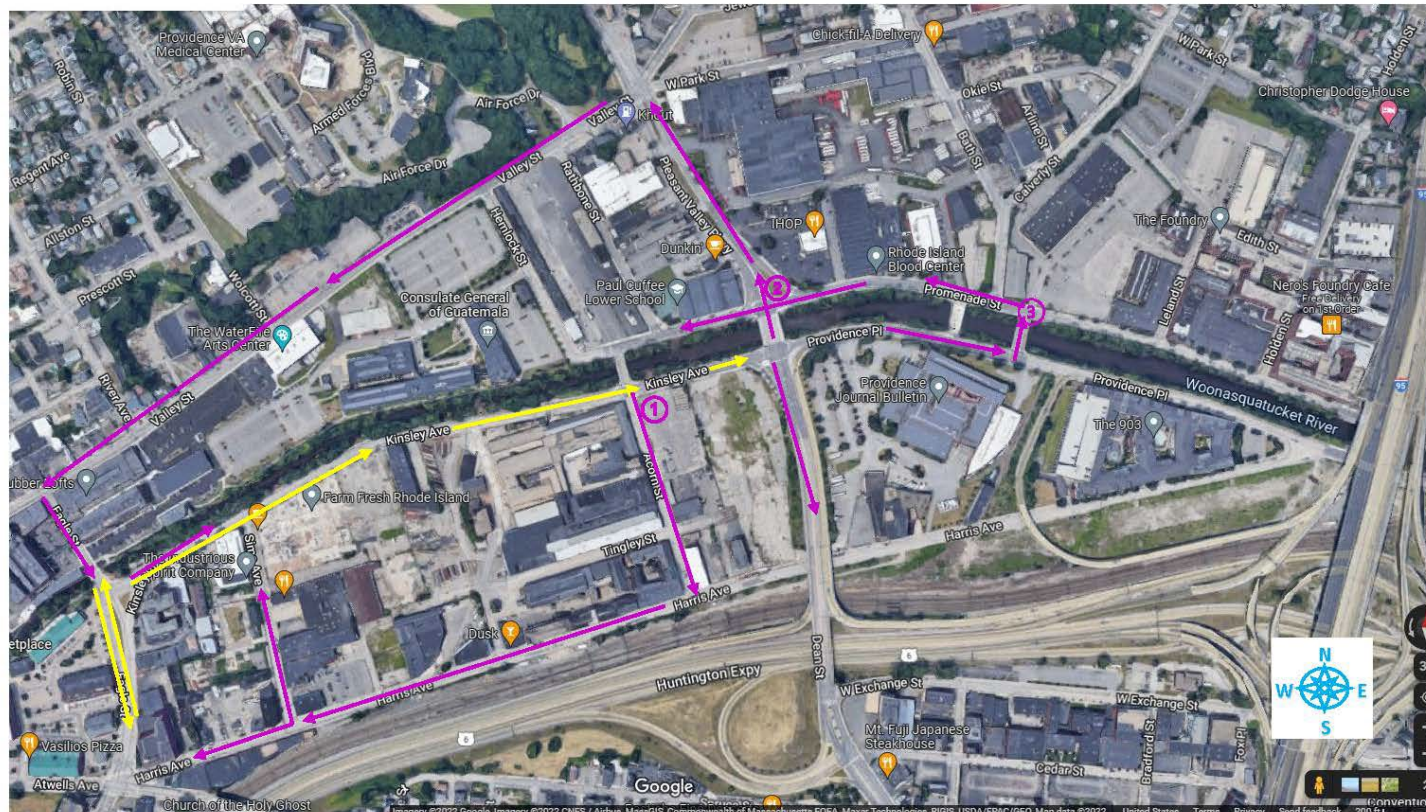


- 2** Left turns from Dean Street onto Promenade Street will be prohibited to reduce congestion on the bridge and add time to the pedestrian signal to make it safer for people walking.
- 3** The Bath Street bridge is converted to one-way northbound travel only.
- 4** Promenade Street is narrowed to one lane, and continues in the westbound direction from Park Street. A new shared use path is created along the river.

 Woonasquattuck River Greenway-  
new shared use path along the River

 Vehicle Travel Paths

# Detour Routes and Alternate Routes

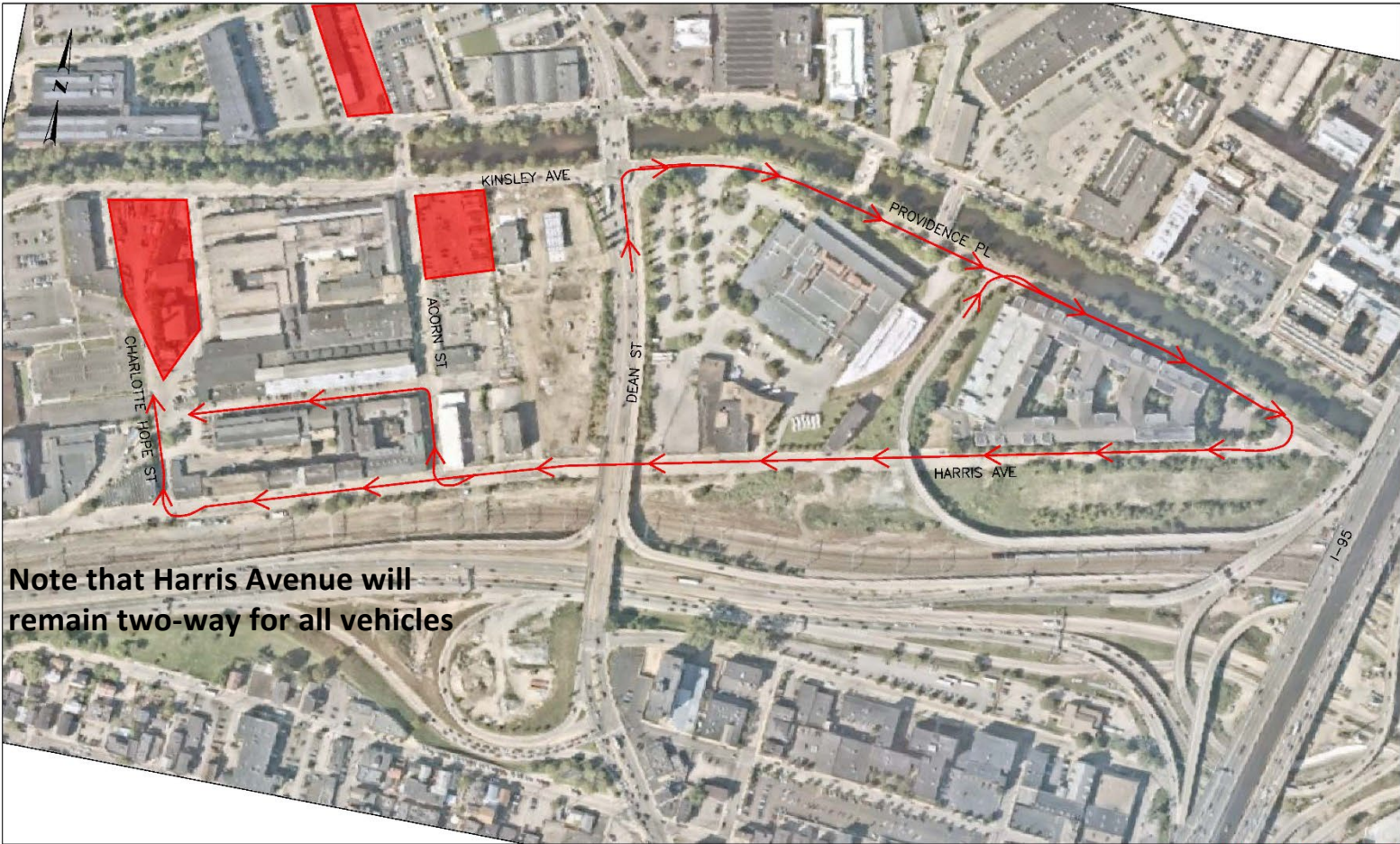


When Kinsley Ave. is converted to one-way, drivers will have alternative route options to circle back to destinations west of Dean Street.

- ① Alternate Route 1: Right onto Acorn Street, right onto Harris Avenue, right onto Sims Avenue, right onto Kinsley Avenue
- ② Alternate Route 2: Left onto Dean Street, left onto Valley Street, left onto Eagle Street, left onto Kinsley Avenue
- ③ Alternate Route 3: Straight through Dean Street, left onto Bath Street Bridge, left onto Promenade, EITHER: right onto Pleasant Valley Parkway, left onto Valley Street OR continue to Hemlock Street, left onto Valley Street, left onto Eagle Street, left onto Kinsley Avenue

**Note that all traffic will also be able to head east on Providence Place Mall to Harris Avenue, take a right onto Harris, and continue westbound**

# Truck Route



**Note that Harris Avenue will remain two-way for all vehicles**

AUTOTURN GRAPHIC  
PROPOSED TRUCK ROUTE

WOONASQUATUCKET RIVER GREENWAY  
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

**MCMAHON**  
a Bowman company

# Points of Contact

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- General project questions
  - Jess Lance, [jlance@providenceri.gov](mailto:jlance@providenceri.gov)  
Providence DPD Director of Special Projects  
401-680-8519
- Construction/Field Questions and Concerns (delivery/loading access needs, etc.)
  - Julie Meloni  
Manafort Brothers Superintendent  
401-265-2477
- General WRWC updates (email blasts)
  - Jill Davidson, [jdavidson@wrwc.org](mailto:jdavidson@wrwc.org)





# THANK YOU

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City of Providence

